AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

ABSTRACT

A fuel cell which contains a membrane containing from 30 to 99.5% by weight of a sulfonated aromatic polyether ketone which has an ion-exchange capacity of from 1.3 to 4.0 meq ($-SO_3H$)/g of polymer, and from 0.5 to 70% by weight of a polybenzimidazole, obtainable by a process which has the following steps:

a) preparing a solution coontaining from 30 to 99.5% by weight of a sulfonated polyether ketone and from 0.5 to 70% by weight of a polybenzimidazole by dissolving the salt of the sulfonated polyether ketone and the polybenzimidazole in an organic solvent,

b) shaping the solution obtained in step a) to produce a membrane having a thickness of at least 5 μm,

c) washing the membrane obtained in step b) with water or with a dilute acid of from 0.1 to 20% strength.

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